

time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER. This concludes the call of the Private Calendar.

#### MORAL BASIS OF CUTTING TAXES

(Mr. GINGRICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I made the case in a special order on the moral basis of cutting taxes; a moral basis because lower taxes means that parents have more money to raise their children and their family; a moral basis because lower taxes means that citizens have more time and more take-home pay to be good citizens, to be involved in charitable events, to be involved as volunteers in helping their community; a moral basis for cutting taxes because with lower taxes and more take-home pay, people have more opportunity to create jobs, to save, and to invest and to help the economy keep growing.

For every American who is interested in noting how the tax bill we are proposing would help them, they can check on the Internet GOP tax calculator at <http://hillsource.house.gov>.

I will repeat that. For those who are involved in the Internet, this is an opportunity for them to look directly at the tax bill to check for themselves how they would benefit under our tax relief plan. It is on the Internet, GOP tax calculator, and the address is <http://hillsource.house.gov>.

Our goal is to have all Americans have an opportunity to look at their tax cut and the opportunity they will have. This is the first tax cut in 16 years. We believe that working middle-class Americans deserve tax relief. We believe that tax relief should focus on families with children. It should focus on small business and family farms. It should focus on job creation, and it should focus on helping people get a better education.

So I urge Members to look at the Internet site to find out the information for the tax cut.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for rollcall votes 255 through 266 last week due to a death in my family.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" or "aye" on roll call votes 255, 256, 257, 258, 260, 261, 263, 264, and 265, and "nay" or "no" on rollcall votes 259, 262, and 266.

#### EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO THE INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS BILL WITHOUT PROVISION FOR CONTINUED FUNDING OF THE NEA

(Ms. SLAUGHTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reluctantly oppose the Interior appropriations bill we will be voting on today because it contains no funding for the National Endowment for the Arts. The rule did not allow us to have a vote, an up-or-down vote, on NEA on the grounds that the NEA was not authorized. However, later today we will be voting on an appropriations bill that has at least 40 unauthorized and protected measures in it. I believe if we had had an up-or-down vote on the NEA, that it would have been fully funded for the next year.

The Federal support for the arts is an incredibly worthwhile investment, and as many of our Members know, students with 4 years of arts study score 59 points higher on their verbal scores and 45 points higher on the math portion of their SAT's than students with no arts classes.

Recent studies about the development of the human brain show the importance of arts for early childhood development. At the University of California at Irvine, researchers found that music training is far superior to computer instruction in dramatically enhancing children's abstract reasoning skills.

#### THE JUVENILE CRIME AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ACT

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, today the House will consider a very important issue of juvenile crime. It should be noted that 20 percent, 1 out of 5, of all murders, rapes, robberies, and assaults in this country are committed by individuals under the age of 18. Furthermore, population experts are predicting a 31 percent increase in the youth population by the year 2010.

We must act on this issue immediately. H.R. 1818, the Juvenile Crime and Delinquency Prevention Act, is a very important piece of legislation in this battle. This bill, authored by my Republican colleague, the gentleman from California [Mr. RIGGS] provides block grants to States in order to fund juvenile crime control activities, giving much greater flexibility to local officials to best utilize their resources. Equally important, this bill reauthorizes programs to serve runaways and homeless youth and the National Missing Children's Center.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year this body passed H.R. 3, which provided for more effective punishment of juvenile offenders. This legislation will focus on prevention of juvenile crime. I commend the gentleman from California [Mr. RIGGS] and the Republican leadership for bringing this bill to the floor, and I urge its passage.

#### THE WHITE HOUSE COVERUP ON NAFTA

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, surprise, surprise. The White House issued a glowing report on NAFTA. However, the Economic Policy Institute says the White House cannot handle the truth. The truth is our trade deficit with Mexico has ballooned to \$16 billion. Our trade deficit with Canada has ballooned to \$23 billion. In addition, in the first 32 months of NAFTA, America has lost 500,000 jobs, that is half a million; 15,000 jobs a month, 1,850 jobs a week, 765 jobs a day. But the White House says, do not worry, we are going to find new jobs.

Tell me, how many people can "Mickey D" hire in America, Mr. Speaker? Who is kidding whom? The White House has not issued a report on NAFTA, the White House has issued a cover-up on NAFTA. I yield back the balance of any jobs we might have left.

#### TAX CUTS SHOULD BE FOR THOSE WHO PAY TAXES

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, remember when a tax cut meant paying less taxes? That was not too long ago. Taxes were something you paid, not something you got. The tax cuts I am talking about are tax cuts that reduce the amount you pay. A tax cut does not mean that anyone gives me anything, it means the Government is taking less.

I have no hope whatsoever that the other side will understand this point, but my constituents asked that I keep trying. When the Government takes a little less from the taxpayers, no one else is worse off. However, when the Government gives somebody some money, like the earned income tax credit, for example, that is at the expense of somebody else. The taxpayers pay for that.

Some Members' idea of a tax cut means that the taxpayers pay more. That is nonsense. A tax cut is not at the expense of other taxpayers. A tax cut to those who do not pay income taxes is at the expense of others. That makes all the difference.

#### THE REPUBLICAN TAX PLAN FAILS THE SPEAKER'S OWN MORALITY TEST

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, last week Speaker Gingrich said, and I quote, "We believe there is a moral